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Phthalides

From celery seeds and other botanicals



Research studies exploring Phthalides



T1: Phytotherapy Research, Vol. 11, 576—582 (1997)

Cardiovascular Pharmacology of 3-n-butylphthalide in Spontaneously Hypertensive Rats

D. Tsi and B. K. H. Tan

The hypotensive and vasorelaxant effects of 3-n-butylphthalide (BuPh) and its possible mechanisms were investigated in spontaneously hypertensive rats (SHR) for the first time. A 13-day intake of BuPh at doses of 2.0 and 4.0 mg/day produced a transient hypotensive effect while a dose of 0.5 mg/day showed a significant hypotensive effect only on day 12. BuPh at 0.5 mg/day had no effect on tissue angiotensin converting enzyme (ACE) activities, or on the tissue lipid peroxidation in endothelium-intact and denuded aortic rings precontracted with phenylephrine and KCl. N-methyl-L-arginine methyl ester, an inhibitor of nitric oxide synthase, did not attenuate the vasorelaxant activity. Cumulative concentration response curves of phenylephrine and Ca^{2+} (in CaCl_2 -free, high K^+ solution) were non-competitively inhibited by BuPh. However, BuPh did not interfere with the caffeine-induced release of intracellular Ca^{2+} . It appears that the vasorelaxant effect of BuPh could be attributed to the inhibition of Ca^{2+} entry, possibly through voltage- and receptor-operated Ca^{2+} channels, thereby lowering the blood pressure of SHR.

2: Acta Pharmacol Sin 2000 May;21(5):433-8

Inhibitory effects of chiral 3-n-butylphthalide on inflammation following focal ischemic brain

Xu HL, Feng YP.

Aim: To evaluate the degree of neutrophil infiltration into ischemic tissue after transient focal ischemia, and to examine the effects of chiral 3-n-butylphthalide (NBPh) on this inflammatory response. **METHODS:** After a 24-h reperfusion following transient cerebral ischemia, two different techniques, immunohistochemical analysis and modified myeloperoxidase (MPO)-quantification method, were utilized to identify

neutrophils into cerebral tissue following ischemia. The expression of intercellular adhesion molecule-1 (ICAM-1) and tumor necrosis factor- α (TNF- α) in the ischemic zone were observed by immunohistochemistry, Western blot, and in situ hybridization techniques.

RESULTS: In cerebral cortex area perfused by middle cerebral artery (MCA), MPO activity increased after 24 h of reperfusion in the vehicle group, and it correlated well with the infiltration of neutrophils. Administration of dl-, d-, and l-NBP (20 mg/kg-1) partially inhibited both the MPO activity and the appearance of neutrophils in ischemia-reperfusion sites. Up-regulation of ICAM-1 was observed on the microvessel endothelium in the ischemic territory. In addition, chiral NBP decreased the expression of ICAM-1 and decreased the number of TNF- α blue purple-positive neurons in the ischemia-reperfusion injury. **CONCLUSION:** The results indicate that the increase in neutrophil infiltration into the infarct site implicated postischemic brain injury, and NBP was effective in protecting brain tissue following ischemic insult.

PMID: 11324442 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

3: Yakugaku Zasshi 1989 Jun;109(6):402-6

[Centrally acting muscle relaxant effect of phthalides (ligustilide, cnidilide and senkyunolide) in *Cnidium officinale* Makino] [Article in Japanese] Ozaki Y, Sekita S, Harada M.

The present study was carried out to elucidate a centrally acting muscle relaxant effect of cinnoline fraction and its component, namely, ligustilide, cnidilide and senkyunolide obtained from *Cnidium officinale* Makino. These three compounds were isolated from the chloroform-soluble column chromatography on silica gel. The centrally acting muscle relaxant effect was investigated by crossed extensor reflex in anesthetized rats and these samples were suspended in 0.5% carboxymethylcellulose solution and administered i.p. These three compounds as well as the chloroform-soluble fraction depressed the reflex response. The depressive potencies among them were almost the same. The potencies were also the same or somewhat weaker as that of mephenesin. As a curare-like effect was observed, a muscle relaxation induced by these phthalide compounds is considered to be of central origin. PMID: 2810059 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

4: Clin Exp Pharmacol Physiol 1999 Oct;26(10):845-6

NBPA: a cerebral ischemic protective agent.

Zhang J, Peng X, Wei G, Su D.

1. NBPA is a derivative of 3-n-butyrylphthalide isolated from *Apium granolens* Linn.
2. At concentrations ranging from 6×10^{-6} to 10^{-6} mol/L, NBPA inhibited the L-type calcium current in guinea-pig myocardial cells and cultured human neuroblastoma cells.
3. At 10^{-6} mol/L, NBPA markedly inhibited calcium-dependent and -independent release of intracellular calcium.

synaptosomes.

4. The $[31P]$ nuclear magnetic resonance spectrum has shown that pretreatment with NBPA improved energy metabolism.

5. In situ hybridization has shown that 10 and 20 mg/kg, i.p., NBPA prior to cerebral artery accelerate the expression of heat shock protein 70 mRNA and inhibit c-fos mRNA expression.

6. It has been shown that NBPA decreases the nitric oxide content and blocks nitric oxide synthesis in the global cerebral ischaemia-reperfusion model in rats. In addition, it has been shown that NBPA significantly inhibits the expression of inducible NOS protein.

PMID: 10549420 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

5: Bioorg Med Chem 1999 Jul;7(7):1445-50

Structure-requirements of isocoumarins, phthalides, and stilbenes from

Hydrangeae Dulcis Folium for inhibitory activity on histamine release from rat

peritoneal mast cells.

Matsuda H, Shimoda H, Yoshikawa M.

We examined the structure-activity relationships of isocoumarins, phthalides and stilbenes Hydrangeae Dulcis Folium and related compounds for the inhibition of histamine release from mast cells. The activities of isocoumarins such as thunberginol A and B were more potent than those of isocoumarins such as hydrangenol and thunberginol G. The double bond at the 3-position was essential to potentiate the activity. The hydroxyl groups at the 8-, 3'- and 4'-positions were essential for the activity, while the hydroxyl group at the 6-position was scarcely needed. Compounds of benzylidenephthalides such as thunberginol F were more potent than those of hydrangenol. The presence of a double bond at the 3-position was needed to increase the activity. More hydroxyl groups at the 8-position were essential for the activity. On the time course study, thunberginol A completely inhibited histamine release by pretreatment at 100 microM for 1 to 15 min, while hydrangenol inhibited histamine release only following 1-min pretreatment at 1000 microM. These results suggest that the mechanisms of the inhibitory effect of thunberginol A are different from that of hydrangenol.

PMID: 10465418 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

6: Life Sci 1998;62(23):2073-82

Effects of methylenechloride-soluble fraction of Japanese angelica root extract, ligustilide and butylidenephthalide, on pentobarbital sleep in group-housed and socially isolated mice.

Matsumoto K, Kohno S, Ojima K, Tezuka Y, Kadota S, Watanabe H.

We previously showed that the extract of Japanese angelica root (JAR-E) reversed the pentobarbital (PB) sleep induced by isolation stress and yohimbine and methoxamine, stri noradrenergic systems, in mice. Here, we tested the effects of several fractions from JAR butyridenephthalide, phthalide components of JAR-E, on PB sleep in isolated mice to elucidate mechanism of the action of JAR-E. Methanol-soluble (Met-S) and -insoluble (Met-IS) fractions from JAR-E. Methylenechloride-soluble (MC-S) and -insoluble fractions (MC-IS) were prepared. MC-S (11.4-76 mg/kg, p.o.) reversed the isolation stress-induced decrease in PB sleep, but (0.8-2.4 g/kg, p.o.) nor MC-IS (0.7-2 g/kg, p.o.) had the same effect. The i.p. administration of a similar activity to that observed after the p.o. administration of the same fraction. Ligustilide (i.p.) and butyridenephthalide (10-30 mg/kg, i.p.) reversed PB sleep decrease in isolated mice. Components (20 mg/kg, i.p.) attenuated the suppressive effects of yohimbine (30 nmol, i.c.v.) (200 nmol, i.c.v.) and a benzodiazepine inverse agonist FG7142 (10 mg/kg, i.p.) on PB sleep in mice. These results suggest the contribution of ligustilide and butyridenephthalide to the effect of PB sleep in isolated mice, and implicate central noradrenergic and/or GABA(A) systems in components.

PMID: 9627086 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

7. *Jpn J Pharmacol* 1980 Feb;30(1):85-91

A newly isolated antispasmodic-butyridenephthalide.

Ko WC.

Butyridenephthalide (BdPh), ligustilide and butylphthalide were isolated and purified from *Ligusticum wallichii* Franch. Among these three, BdPh proved to be the most active in inhibiting contractions induced by prostaglandin F₂ alpha, oxytocin and ACh. In studies done on isolated BdPh and papaverine (Pap), guinea pig ileum, vas deferens and taenia coli were used. Exogenous Ca²⁺ responses of the ileum to agonists including ACh, K⁺ and Ba²⁺ in normal Tyrode solution, exogenous Ca²⁺ in high K⁺ (80 mM), Ca²⁺-free Tyrode solution, and also responses of vas deferens to norepinephrine. Thus, BdPh is a non-specific antispasmodic but weaker in papaverine. However, as the inhibitory effects of BdPh on phasic contraction (PC) and tonic contraction (TC) preparations, including depolarized and non-depolarized ileum and taenia coli, were much suggested that the action mechanism of BdPh may differ from that of Pap which inhibited TC. It may be concluded that BdPh possesses a non-specific antispasmodic action

Pap, the mechanism of action being different from that of Pap.

PMID: 7401411 [PubMed - indexed for MEDLINE]

8. *Zhongguo Yao Li Xue Bao*. 1999 Oct;20(10):929-33.

Effects of 3-n-butylphthalide on production of vasoactive substances by cerebral and aortic
 Xu HL, Feng YP. Institute of Materia Medica, Chinese Academy of Medical Sciences, Pek
 Collège, Beijing 100050, China. AIM:

The effects of di-3-n-butylphthalide (di-NBP), l-3-n-butylphthalide (l-NBP), and d-3-n-butyl
 on the production of nitric oxide (NO), epoprostenol (Epo) and endothelin-1 (ET-1) were in
 cerebrovascular and aortic endothelium in culture. METHODS: Bovine cerebral endothelial
 bovine aortic endothelial cells (BAEC) were cultured in Medium 199 in vitro. After incubatir
 NBP for 24 h, the release of NO, Epo, and ET-1 were analyzed by using spectrometry ass
 radioimmunoassay (RIA) respectively. RESULTS: Low concentrations of di- and l-NBP (0.
 enhanced nitrite and 6-ketoprostaglandin F1 alpha (6-ketoPGF1 alpha) production in both
 after a 24-h incubation, and l-NBP has a potent effect on promoting Epo production in BCE
 of ET-1 secreted by BCEC and BAEC was increased after TNF alpha stimulation, this enh
 blunted by the simultaneous addition of di-, l-, and d-NBP. CONCLUSION: 1) di-NBP and
 production in both BCEC and BAEC. 2) l-NBP increases more Epo production in BCEC th
 and di-NBP has selective effect on increasing Epo production in BCEC.

PMID: 11270994 [PubMed - Indexed for MEDLINE]

9. Antioxidant, cyclooxygenase and topoisomerase inhibitory compounds from *Api Linn. seeds.*

Momin RA, Nair MG. Department of Horticulture and National Food Safety and Toxicology
 State University, East Lansing 48824, USA. Phytomedicine. 2002 May;9(4):312-8.

Cyclooxygenase inhibitory and antioxidant bioassay-directed extraction and purification of
 yielded sedanolidide (1), senkyunolidide-N (2), senkyunolidide-J (3), 3-hydroxymethyl-6-methoxy
 indol-2-ol (4), L-tryptophan (6), and 7-[3-(3,4-dihydroxy-4-hydroxymethyl-tetrahydro-furan-
 dihydroxy-6-hydroxymethyl-tetrahydro-pyran-2-yloxy]-5-hydroxy-2-(4-hydroxy-3-methoxy-f
 one (7). The structures of compounds 1-7 were determined using spectroscopic methods,
 reported here for the first time. At 250 pg ml⁻¹, compounds 1-4, 6 and 7 displayed prosta
 endoperoxide synthase-I (COX-I) and prostaglandin H endoperoxide synthase-II (COX-II)
 at pH 7. The acetylated product (5) of compound 4 also inhibited COX-I and COX-II enzym
 250 microg ml⁻¹. Compounds 6 and 7 exhibited good antioxidant activity at concentratio
 microg ml⁻¹. Only compounds 1-3 exhibited topoisomerase-I and -II enzyme inhibitory at
 concentrations of 100, 200 and 200 microg ml⁻¹, respectively.

PMID: 12120812 [PubMed - Indexed for MEDLINE]

10. NSAID gastropathy: prevention by celery seed extracts in disease-stressed rats

Whitehouse M.W., Butters. DE, Clarke M L, Rainsford K D

Inflammopharmacology, Vol 9, No 1,2, pp 201 -209 (2001)

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